Fibre Textile Unit. However, as per information made available by National Cooperative Development Corporation, there are proposals to set up 40 Cooperative Spinning Mills in the country during the Eighth Five Year Plan out of which 2 mills are proposed for Punjab.

Export of Cotton

2228. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH MANN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) how much and what portion of total production of cotton was allowed for export by Government;

(b) what portion of the said quantity has been exported;

(c) what portion of cotton has been referred to be exported and whether that is held up at the ports and lying there;

(d) if so, whether the credibility of Indian commerce is jeopardised due to this situation; and

(e) who is to be held responsible therefor and for the loss of goodwill of Indian exports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) 5 lakh bales (4 per cent) of the estimated production of 125 lakh bale were released for export by Government during the cotton season 1993-94.

(b) 1.665 lakh bales are reported to have been shipped out of the contracted quantity of 3.428 lakh bales against the quota of 5 lakh bales.

(c) About 1.763 lakh bales of the contracted quantity of 3.428 lakh bales are reported to have been deferred to be exported on account of suspension of export. None of this quantity is reported to be held at the ports and lying there.

(d) and (e) The Government's decision to suspend exports agianst the export quota was taken in view of the spiralling cotton prices in the domestic market leading to increase in the prices of yarn which had adversely affected a large number of handloom and powerloom weavers. The representatives of the affected overseas buyers, while urging Government to permit exports also appreciated the circumstances under which the measures to suspend export was taken.

Merger of sick Textile Unit with Healthy Units

2229. SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE:
SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:
SHRI MOHD. KHALEELUR RAHMAN:
SHIR SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY:
SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the sick textile units are going to be merged with viable or healthy units;

(b) if so, when, how and where and the number of closed, sick, viable and healthy units and percentage of capacity utilisation of the NTC mills;

(c) what is the number of workers who are being paid salaries though rendered idle and their total monthly wage bill;

(d) what are the accumulated losses, interest waived by Government and outstanding debts of sick units, till date; and

(e) the reasons for trade unions not responding to the proposal to take over of textile mills through promotion of workers' cooperatives?